

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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North Hollywood Woman Charged with Murder for Hit-And-Run Crash

A 24-year-old woman has been charged with murder for fatally crashing into a man on a motor scooter waiting for the red light in North Hollywood, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Jessica Yvette Martinez (dob 1/28/95) of North Hollywood faces one felony count each of murder and hit-and-run driving resulting in death.

Deputy District Attorney Casey Higgins of the DUI Training and Prosecution Section is assigned to the case.

Martinez pleaded not guilty to the charges yesterday and is scheduled to return for a pre-preliminary hearing on June 25 in Department 122 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch. Case LA090666 was filed on June 10.

On June 6, victim Anthony Eduardo Chay, 20, was waiting at a stop light at Vineland Avenue and Vanowen Street when the defendant ran into him at a high rate of speed, the prosecutor said.

If convicted as charged, Martinez faces a possible maximum sentence of 19 years to life in state prison. Bail is set at \$2 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Valley Traffic Division.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.